



The Proceedings of the I.R.E.

JOHN R. PIERCE, EDITOR



Any statement of policy by a new Editor concerning so venerable and distinguished a journal as the PROCEEDINGS OF THE I.R.E. must in a large measure merely reiterate the policy which has guided our Editor Emeritus in the long years through which he formed and developed that publication. Nonetheless, it is perhaps well from time to time for the members of the Institute to consider the PROCEEDINGS and its purposes.

The PROCEEDINGS should especially publish as promptly as possible papers describing new technical advances of such importance that they are of general interest. These advances may be new inventions, new systems, new theories, new measurements, new calculations: anything in the field which is new and important. A paper describing such work must of course contain sound technical substance, mathematical or otherwise, but such a paper will be most valuable if it explains clearly the importance and nature of the advance which has been made, and if it tells simply how to use any equations or curves which may be presented.

We will endeavor to see that such papers receive prompt and expert editorial treatment, and to suggest cuts or changes only to remedy particular defects which the reviewers find.

Prospective authors will be interested to read our instructions to reviewers, which are reprinted on page 764 of this issue under the title, "Reviewing Papers for the PROCEEDINGS OF THE I.R.E."

Sometimes the essence of a new advance can be expressed in a few hundred words, with few or no illustrations, so that it can be described in a letter to the editor. Such letters will receive special consideration for immediate publication.

Often, sound work of a very high quality, work of great importance in a special field, may be so specialized as to be of little interest to people outside of that field. In general, we believe that such work should be published in the TRANSACTIONS of some one of the Professional Groups rather than in the PROCEEDINGS. A recommendation so to publish is no reflection on the quality of a paper, but represents merely a judgment as to its interest for the general membership of the Institute.

Besides contributed technical papers, the PROCEEDINGS publishes from time to time tutorial papers, which are intended to teach the use of modern techniques in solving problems in various fields, and review papers, which are intended to give a picture of the state of the art in various fields. The PROCEEDINGS also publishes book reviews, editorials, news and other material. These other subjects will be dealt with in future issues.

To handle all of these matters well we must have the co-operation of authors in preparing their material well, and that of readers in making suggestions and in criticizing our efforts, as we solicit them to do.